

# Rhodora

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## NOTEWORTHY RHODE ISLAND PLANTS.

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ALTHOUGH a botanist's chief pleasure may come through the discovery of new species, the range extension of well-known plants, and the location of unreported stations, add not a little to his enjoyment, and often prove useful. It seems worth while, therefore, to record a few such plants collected by the writer, especially those from certain towns in Newport County which have not been fully covered by local floras.

SPARGANIUM EURYCARPUM Engelm. Little Compton. In shallow water of a pond. Infrequent.

POTAMOGETON BUPLEUROIDES Fernald. Newport, Middletown and Little Compton. Ponds, under brackish influence. The discovery of the Little Compton station for this plant tends to confirm Prof. M. L. Fernald's suggestion that the *Potamogeton perfoliatus* L. of early R. I. botanists may have been *P. bupleuroides*. Reported by Olney, 1847, from Little Compton and Providence.

VALLISNERIA AMERICANA Michx. Little Compton. Pond, possibly Olney's (1847) original station. Also recorded from Providence and Barrington. A plant of wide range, but far from common.

ECHINOCLOA WALTERI (Pursh) Nash. Middletown, Little Compton and Barrington. Sandy marshes near salt water. Apparently frequent along the coast.

CENCHRUS CAROLINIANUS Walt. Little Compton. Sandy soil, near ocean. Infrequent.

GLYCERIA SEPTENTRIONALIS Hitchc. Tiverton. Some of the older Mass. and R. I. records for *Glyceria fluitans* (L.) R. Br. may be this species.

GLYCERIA ACUTIFLORA Torr. Tiverton. Occasional, bog holes in woods. Roots freely at the nodes, forming loosely spreading clumps.

ELYMUS VIRGINICUS L. var. HALOPHILUS (Bicknell) Wiegand. Prudence Id. (Portsmouth). Salt marshes. Probably not uncommon in its preferred habitat, and doubtless included in older collections with *Elymus virginicus* L., from which it was separated by Bicknell as *E. halophilus*, but more recently changed, by Wiegand, to a variety of *E. virginicus*.

CYPERUS GRAYII Torr. Little Compton. Sandy shores, near ocean. Recorded from coastal towns of Mass. and R. I., but apparently the stations are few. Recently reported from Westerly, R. I.

SMILAX HERBACEA L. Warren and Bristol. Frequent rather than common. Individual plants in a colony seldom numerous.

POGONIA VERTICILLATA (Willd.) Nutt. Tiverton. Open woods and shaded thickets. Probably not common anywhere in New England, and comparatively rare in Rhode Island.

GLAUCIUM FLAVUM Crantz. Prudence Id. (Portsmouth) and Bristol. In beach shingle, on cliffs, and in waste places, on or near the coast. Also reported from Portsmouth, Little Compton, Conanicut Id., and "Mt. Hope Bay," R. I. Prudence Id. may be Olney's original station. Introduced and local.

RUBUS RHODINSULANUS Bailey. Prudence Id. (Portsmouth), in Narragansett Bay. Dry, open, sandy pastures, forming circular patches, the runners—often 5 or 6 feet long—extending like spokes from the hub of a wheel.

A new species, recently described by L. H. Bailey in *Gentes Herbarum*, vi. Rubus. Oct., 1925, pp. 233, 242, 243. Somewhat resembles *Rubus arenicola* Blanchard. May not be confined to this island.

STROPHOSTYLES HELVOLA (L.) Britton. Prudence Id. and Barrington. Specimens from Jamestown, Newport Co., have also been seen.

GERANIUM ROBERTIANUM L. Tiverton. Rich soil of wooded hillsides. Infrequent.

CRYPTOTAENIA CANADENSIS (L.) DC. Lincoln. Well within its range, but all stations in southern Mass. and R. I. are worth recording.

CORNUS CANADENSIS L. Tiverton. Rocky pasture thicket.

Visited several years in succession. Cautious inquiry gave no indication that the plants were not native, and the wildness of the country and the nature of the people were not conducive to the sentiment of transplantation. On the second visit a competent botanist was taken to confirm the record.

Listed from Portsmouth, R. I., nearly forty years ago.

*HOTTONIA INFLATA* Ell. Tiverton. Stagnant or quiet waters of ponds and streams. Although more than a dozen stations are known in southeastern Mass., the R. I. records for this plant are not numerous.

*SAMOLUS FLORIBUNDUS* HBK. Bristol. In brackish mud. Notwithstanding the wide and peculiar distribution of this species, the New England stations are comparatively few and scattered.

*LIMOSELLA SUBULATA* Ives. Little Compton. In sandy mud and shallow water of pond, near ocean. Also reported from the town of Narragansett, and from Providence. A rare and local plant and always interesting.

*ASTER CONCOLOR* L. South Kingston. Dry, sandy loam of pastures, and on banks of glacial till. Several stations scattered along the South Shore between Wakefield and Westerly. Also recorded from this general region, but farther inland, near Worden's Pond.

A very handsome plant, often with thick, cylindrical clusters of pink-violet flowers changing to deep blue-violet when pressed. The range of this plant—eastern Mass. (including Nantucket), Rhode Island and southward—adds to its interest.

*MIKANIA SCANDENS* (L.) Willd. Tiverton. Another plant of wide distribution, but not frequently collected.

*ONOPORDUM ACANTHIUM* L. Prudence Id.: a small colony in barren pasture. Providence: a large colony, in waste ground, east side of the city. Lincoln: a single, villainous looking shrub, 6 or 7 feet tall and nearly as wide, existed, a few years ago, in this town. Apparently an introduction of rare and local occurrence.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.

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## THE IDENTITY OF *ERIOPHORUM CALLITRIX*.

M. L. FERNALD.

ONE of the most characteristic members of *Eriophorum* § *Vaginata* in northeastern America—from Baffinland and Labrador to Athabasca, south on bogs and in spruce swamps to Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, southern New England, the mountains of Pennsylvania, northern Indiana and Wisconsin—is the Harestail, the densely cespitose species which by early American authors was identified